



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

APR 9 1986

Mr. Michael Matt
Watertown Redevelopment Authority
319 Arlington Street
Watertown, Massachusetts 02172

Dear Mr. Matt:

The Department of Energy is evaluating the radiological condition of sites that were utilized under the Manhattan Engineer District and/or the Atomic Energy Commission in the early years of nuclear energy development to determine whether they need remedial action and whether the Department has authority to perform such action. As you know from information previously sent to you, portions of the Watertown Arsenal in Watertown, Massachusetts, were identified as possible sites. The areas investigated included those areas which were the sites of Buildings 34, 41, and 421 and the GSA site. The enclosed documents, which represent the Department's review of the former Building 34, 41 and 421 areas, are provided to you, as the owner's representative, for your information.

As indicated in the enclosed survey reports and site summary report, some surface and soil contamination was identified on and in the vicinity of the pads of the former buildings. The spotty surface contamination found on pads of Buildings 34 and 431 is fixed. While it does not represent a hazard to workers or the general public, in its current configuration, it is in excess of guidelines used by the Department for properties which have no restriction on their use. However, a review of available historical information indicated that there is insufficient data to provide the Department with authority under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, to conduct remedial action at the site under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

By copy of this letter we are notifying the Environmental Protection Agency, the State of Massachusetts, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (because portions of the site were covered under an NRC license) of this action and associated findings.

Documentation supporting the Department's decision is available for public review at the Department's Public Reading Room located in Room 1E-190 of the Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C.

If you have any questions regarding this decision or the availability of the material at the reading room, please contact me at 301-353-4716.

Sincerely,

1d

Edward G. DeLaney, Director
Division of Facility and Site
Decommissioning Projects
Office of Nuclear Energy

3 Enclosures

cc:

J. Moebes, EPA Region I
R. Hallisey, MA Dept. of Health
R. Haynes, NRC Region I
H. Snyder, EPA, Wash., D.C.

bcc:

E. Keller, OR
E. Jascewsky, CH
C. Welty, EH-23
V. DeCarlo, EH-123
S. Miller, GC-11
G. Turi, NE-23
Aerospace

NE-20 RF
DeLaney RF
NEG (4)

NE-23:EDeLaney:ph:353-4716:4/3/86:IBM:93/9:3.21.4

| |
|---------------|
| CONCURRENCES |
| RTG SYMBOL |
| NE-23 |
| INITIALS/SIG. |
| DeLaney |
| DATE |
| 4/3/86 |
| RTG SYMBOL |
| INITIALS/SIG. |
| DATE |
| RTG SYMBOL |
| INITIALS/SIG. |
| DATE |
| RTG SYMBOL |
| INITIALS/SIG. |
| DATE |
| RTG SYMBOL |
| INITIALS/SIG. |
| DATE |
| RTG SYMBOL |
| INITIALS/SIG. |
| DATE |
| RTG SYMBOL |
| INITIALS/SIG. |
| DATE |